



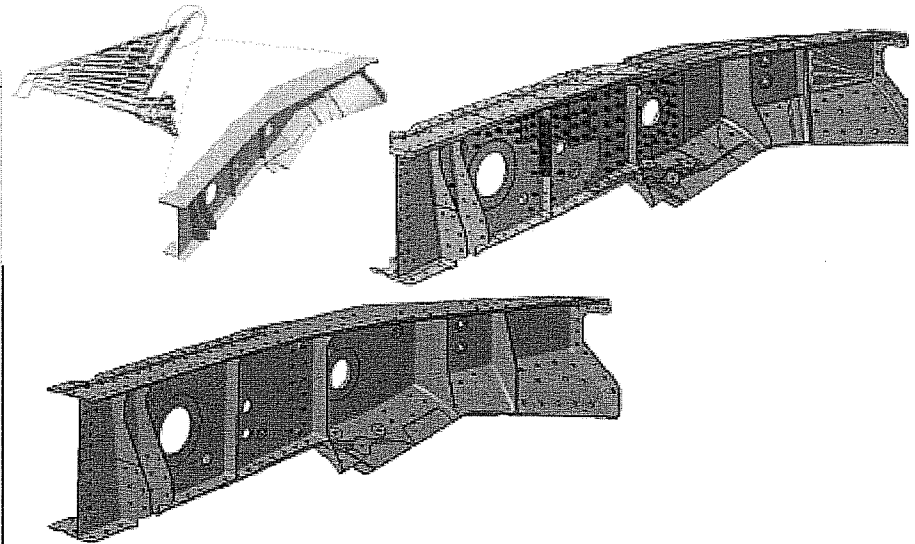
Forward Root Rib

Issue/Background

- Most critical (lowest life) CTOL part to fall out of the SSOR development effort.
- Zoned FCT/MC 7085 part with a number of low life locations.
- Lowest unfactored durability life 1148 hours (SSOR), AJ1 has completed 1500 hours with no cracks detected.
- Very high operating stresses $>$ yield, therefore critical crack sizes is approximately 0.050"
- Issue for STOVL as well, similar life, FC part.

Status

- Fleet recurring inspections continue (EIR/PAIR) no damage identified.
- CR initiated. Redesign and Retrofit concepts defined (above). Engineering to support drawing release in work.
- Retrofit feasibility and mod planning in work.
 - Retrofit is complex, likely to be expensive and time consuming. New segment splice requires numerous cuts, fittings, angles, systems R&I and 'plying' up the upper wing skin.
- USAF have technically approved resumption of AJ1 testing (beyond life limit) without repair (availability of 1-4%)



Follow-on Actions/Schedule

- JPO Exec Buy Off on AJ1 Restart – 3 May 11
- Investigate vendor options beyond typical expedite fees to improve production cut in – 3rd Qtr 11
- Approve & release redesign CR – 3rd Qtr 11
- New AJ1 forging, production parts available – 31 Nov